



State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	I-5 (Interstate 5) Fuelbreak		
PROJECT LOCATION	Interstate 5, Between Red Bluff and Hooker Creek Road Exit Red Bluff, CA 96080	COUNTY	Tehama
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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ADDRESS	604 Antelope Blvd Red Bluff, CA 96080		

Project Description

Perform annual maintenance of a 6-10 foot wide fuelbreak in rolling grass covered land adjacent to Interstate 5 (I-5) within the Cal Trans right-of-way adjacent to both the east and west sides of the interstate. This work would utilize Cal Fire inmate crews to hand cut/scalp annual grasses approximately 6-10 feet in width parallel to the interstate between the City of Red Bluff, CA and extend to the Hooker Creek Road exit, a distance of approximately 8 miles. The fuelbreak is sized appropriately for the fuel type and has been installed annually at this location for approximately 16 years. The fuelbreak has been effective in controlling the many small fires that originate from the interstate, which helps to provide protection to the many residential homes along its length. The fuelbreak will be installed each year after the annual grasses have cured and cease to grow for the remainder of the year. The fuel break remains intact until the following years' growth occurs. Ishi Camp and Salt Creek Camp share this project.

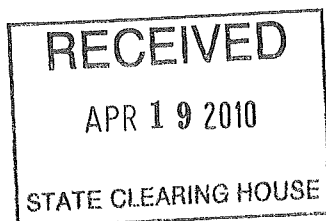
EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (e) Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits within the Class 4 Categorical Exemption described in state law (14 CCR Section 15304) pertaining to minor alterations to land, will not have a significant effect on the environment, and is exempt from the provisions of CEQA. Prior to reaching this conclusion, however, the Department first conducted an environmental impact analysis to confirm that no **Exceptions** exist at the project site which would preclude the use of a Categorical Exemption. The possible exceptions that lead agencies must consider include (a) sensitive location, (b) cumulative impact, (c) significant impact due to unusual circumstances, (d) impacts to scenic highways, (e) activities within a hazardous waste site, and (f) significant adverse change to the significance of a historical resource (see CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2). This project involves scraping/scalping grass by hand using Cal Fire hand crews to create a fuelbreak 6'-10' width. Ishi Camp and Salt Creek Camp have been maintaining this fuelbreak annually for the past 16 years, as identified in the Tehama-Glenn Unit Fire Plan. This ongoing fire protection project will have no appreciable impact on water or the land, or any other public trust resources. Field review by Cal Fire staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department's findings are that no significant environmental impacts would occur as a result of this project. Documentation on the environmental review completed by Cal Fire is kept on file at Cal Fire's Tehama-Glenn Unit Headquarters.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director
4/15/10
Date